



JANET NAPOLITANO
Governor

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MAKE THIS JULY FOURTH SAFE FOR EVERYONE BY PLANNING AHEAD WITH A SOBER DESIGNATED DRIVER

Arizona's DUI Task Force will be actively patrolling the state over holiday weekend

With firework displays and other celebrations planned for around the state this upcoming holiday weekend, the Arizona DUI Task Forces also will be aggressively removing impaired drivers to make the roads safer for everyone during one of the most dangerous holidays for motorists.

During the 2004 July 4th holiday weekend, 16 people were killed in Arizona as a result of 11 traffic crashes, a reduction from the 24 fatalities and 16 crashes in 2003. However, in 2004, eight of the fatalities and six crashes were the result of alcohol-impaired drivers, compared to seven alcohol-related fatalities from five crashes the previous year.

“While the number of fatal crashes and fatalities dropped from previous years, it’s a discouraging signal that a majority of them were alcohol-related,” said Richard Fimbres, Director of the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety. “These are preventable deaths everyone can help eliminate by simply not getting behind the wheel if they’ve had too much to drink.”

A majority of Arizona’s 17 DUI Task Forces will be deployed statewide throughout the holiday weekend. Last year, 324 people were cited for DUI, including 103 for extreme, by the task forces.

GOHS wants everyone to enjoy the holiday weekend, but to do so safely.

“Just as people plan ahead to where they’re going to watch the fireworks, if you’re going to drink, have a safe, sober ride home determined before you leave your house,” Fimbres said. “It’ll make the roads safer for everyone. And if you don’t, be warned: Law enforcement will be there to arrest you.”

Please remember to Buckle Up—it’s your best defense against an impaired driver.

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